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a memory for storing a plurality of categories providing classification of the images by subject;
a processor having the capability of assigning the plurality of categories to the images captured by the image sensor, each category providing subject classification of one or more images;
control means for selecting one or more categories for the images;
means for generating an output image signal comprising an image file including both the digital image data corresponding to the images and separate category data including the one or more categories selected by the control means, wherein the category data is separately accessible for each image apart from the image data; and
means responsive to the computer initiated request for transferring the image file(s) corresponding to at least one particular category of the plurality of categories to the external computer via the cable interface.

Please amend claim 15 as set forth below:

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15. (Twice Amended) An electronic imaging system using an electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 in combination with [a host processor] the external computer, wherein the [host processor] external computer provides the externally generated user customized categories to the signal port.

Please amend claim 27 as set forth below:

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27. (Twice Amended) An electronic imaging system as claimed in claim 15 wherein the signal port connects to a removable memory card, and the [host processor] external computer provides the externally generated user customized categories to the signal port by writing the categories into the memory card.

Please amend claim 28 as set forth below:

28. (Twice Amended) An electronic imaging system as claimed in claim 15 wherein [a cable connection] the cable interface is provided

between the signal port and the [host processor] external computer, and the [host processor] external computer provides the externally generated user customized categories over the cable [connection] interface to the signal port.

Please amend claim 29 as set forth below:

29. (Twice Amended) An electronic camera for capturing images representing a variety of subjects and for providing captured images to [a] an external computer in response to a computer initiated request, wherein the electronic camera is interconnected to the external computer via a cable interface said camera comprising;

an image sensor for capturing the images;

a converter stage for converting the images into digital image data;

a memory for storing a plurality of categories providing classification of the images by subject;

a processor having the capability of assigning the plurality of categories to the images captured by the image sensor, each category providing subject classification of one or more images;

control means for selecting one or more categories for the images;

means for storing the digital image data in image files;

means for grouping the image files according to the plurality of categories;

and

means responsive to the computer initiated request for transferring the image files corresponding to at least one particular category of the plurality of categories to the external computer via the cable interface.

Please amend claim 30 as set forth below:

30. (Twice Amended) A method using an electronic camera for capturing images representing a variety of subjects and for providing captured images to [a] an external computer in response to a computer initiated request, wherein the electronic camera is interconnected to the external computer via a cable interface, said method comprising the steps of:

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storing a plurality of categories providing classification of the images by subject;
assigning at least one of the plurality of categories to the images, each category providing subject classification of one or more images;
capturing the images with the electronic camera;
converting the images into digital image data;
generating an output image signal comprising an image file including both the digital image data corresponding to the images and separate category data including the one or more categories selected by a control, wherein the category data is separately accessible for each image apart from the image data; and
transferring, in response to the computer initiated request, the image files corresponding to at least one particular category to the external computer via the cable interface.

Please cancel claim 32.

Please amend claim 36 as set forth below:

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36. (Once Amended) The electronic camera according to claim 35 [wherein the computer is interconnected to the electronic camera via a cable interface, and] wherein the plurality of categories are communicated from the electronic camera to the computer via the cable interface, and the at least one particular category is selected on the computer and downloaded to the electronic camera via the cable interface.

Please amend claim 38 as set forth below:

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38. (Once Amended) The electronic camera according to claim 37 [wherein the computer is interconnected to the electronic camera via a cable interface, and] wherein the plurality of categories are communicated from the electronic camera to the computer via the cable interface, and the at least one